



Bruce Rauner, Governor  
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# NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
Thursday, April 21, 2016

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## Metro Area Job Data Mixed

### *Unemployment Rates Increase in All Metro Areas*

#### Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	March 2016	March 2015	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	6.0%	4.6%	1.4
Carbondale-Marion	7.0%	5.8%	1.2
Champaign-Urbana	5.8%	4.8%	1.0
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	6.6%	6.0%	0.6
Danville	8.4%	6.8%	1.6
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	6.5%	5.7%	0.8
Decatur	7.9%	6.9%	1.0
Elgin	6.8%	6.0%	0.8
Kankakee	7.7%	6.9%	0.8
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	6.5%	5.8%	0.7
Peoria	7.7%	6.2%	1.5
Rockford	7.7%	6.8%	0.9
Springfield	6.0%	5.2%	0.8
St. Louis (IL-Section)	6.8%	5.9%	0.9
Illinois Statewide	6.8%	6.0%	0.8

\* Data subject to revision.

**CHICAGO**—All metropolitan areas in Illinois experienced over the year unemployment rate increases for the second consecutive month, according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES).

“Unemployment rates increased in more than half of the metro areas even though they experienced job growth,” said IDES Director Jeff Mays. “The increase in the unemployment rate was largely due to more people entering the labor force”

Illinois businesses added jobs in just eight metros, in which the largest increases were seen in: Lake-Kenosha (+2.5 percent, +9,900), Rockford (+2.4 percent, +3,600), and Elgin (+2.3, +5,600). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division increased (+1.8 percent or +65,500). Illinois businesses lost jobs in six metro areas including Bloomington (-2.3 percent, -2,200), Danville (-0.7 percent, -200), and the Quad Cities (-0.7 percent, -1,200). The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metros were: Education and Health Services (13 of 14), Leisure and Hospitality (11 of 14), Retail (10 of 14), Government (10 of 14), Mining and Construction (nine of 14),

Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (nine of 14), Professional and Business Services (nine of 14), and Other Services (eight of 14).

Not seasonally adjusted data compares March 2016 with March 2015. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 6.8 percent in March 2016 and stood at 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.1 percent in March 2016 and 10.6 percent in January 2010 at its peak. The unemployment rate identifies those who are out of work and looking for work, and is not tied to collecting unemployment insurance benefits.

#### Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – March 2016

Metropolitan Area	March 2016*	March 2015**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	93,200	95,400	-2,200
Carbondale-Marion MSA	56,900	57,000	-100
Champaign-Urbana MSA	111,100	108,900	2,200
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,647,800	3,582,300	65,500
Danville MSA	29,300	29,500	-200
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	179,600	180,800	-1,200
Decatur MSA	50,500	50,600	-100
Elgin Metro Division	253,600	248,000	5,600
Kankakee MSA	44,900	44,200	700
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	401,400	391,500	9,900
Peoria MSA	176,000	176,200	-200
Rockford MSA	151,800	148,200	3,600
Springfield MSA	112,500	110,600	1,900
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	235,000	231,900	3,100
Illinois Statewide	5,932,300	5,853,200	79,100

\*Preliminary \*\*Revised

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**Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates  
(percent) for Local Counties and Areas**

	Mar. 2016	Mar. 2015	Over- the-Year Change
<b>Bloomington MSA</b>			
DeWitt County	6.9%	5.4%	1.5
McLean County	5.9%	4.5%	1.4
<b>Peoria MSA</b>			
Marshall County	8.3%	6.7%	1.6
Peoria County	7.9%	6.6%	1.3
Stark County	9.0%	6.9%	2.1
Tazewell County	7.5%	6.1%	1.4
Woodford County	6.6%	4.9%	1.7
<b>Ottawa-Streator Area</b>			
Bureau County	7.5%	6.7%	0.8
LaSalle County	8.3%	7.1%	1.2
Putnam County	7.4%	6.9%	0.5
<b>Galesburg Area</b>			
Knox County	7.4%	6.2%	1.2
Warren County	6.7%	5.2%	1.5
<b>Cities</b>			
Bloomington City	6.0%	4.7%	1.3
Galesburg City	7.5%	6.2%	1.3
Normal City	5.8%	4.1%	1.7
Pekin City	8.5%	7.1%	1.4
Peoria City	7.9%	6.4%	1.5
<b>Counties</b>			
Fulton County	8.8%	7.6%	1.2
Henderson County	7.3%	5.7%	1.6
Henry County	7.5%	6.2%	1.3
Livingston County	6.4%	5.3%	1.1
Logan County	6.4%	5.6%	0.8
Mason County	7.8%	6.6%	1.2

**Pontiac Area:** The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 6.4 percent in March 2016 from 5.3 percent in March 2015. Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased by (+100). Manufacturing (+125) increased while Construction (-75) reported the largest loss. All other sectors were stable compared to a year ago.

**Note:**

Monthly 2015 unemployment rates and total non-farm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February and March 2016, as required by the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Comments and tables distributed for prior metro area news releases should be discarded as any records or historical analysis previously cited may no longer be valid.

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## Central Illinois Highlights

### Help Wanted

Area employers advertised for 9,400 positions in March and approximately 84 percent sought full-time employment, according to Help Wanted OnLine data compiled by the Conference Board, which is a global, independent business membership and research association. Employers actually need more workers than the help wanted advertising indicates because some industries, such as Construction, typically do not post advertised job openings.

**Bloomington MSA:** The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 6.0 percent in March 2016 from 4.6 percent in March 2015. There were an estimated 5,900 unemployed people in the labor force in March 2016.

Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment declined by (-2,200). Job gains were reported in Financial Activities (+500), Educational and Health Services (+400), Leisure and Hospitality (+100), and Other Services (+100). Declines were reported in Manufacturing (-1,000), Professional and Business Services (-900), Government (-500), Retail Trade (-400), Construction (-400), and Transportation and Warehousing (-100). All other major industry sectors were little changed compared to a year ago.

**Peoria MSA:** The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 7.7 percent in March 2016 from 6.2 percent in March 2015. There were an estimated 14,300 unemployed people in the labor force in March.

Nonfarm payroll employment declined by (-200) compared to March 2015. Job gains were reported in Retail Trade (+1,100), Leisure and Hospitality (+600), Educational and Health Services (+500), Wholesale Trade (+200), Government (+100), and Professional and Business Services (+100). Declines were reported in Manufacturing (-2,400), Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (-300), and Other Services (-100).

**Ottawa-Streator Area:** The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 8.1 percent in March 2016 from 7.0 percent in March 2015. Nonfarm payrolls increased (+100) from a year ago. The largest gains occurred in Government (+175) and Professional and Business Services (+100). Leisure and Hospitality (-175), and Educational and Health Services (-150) had the largest declines over the year.

**Galesburg Area:** The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 7.4 percent in March 2016 from 6.2 percent in March 2015. Nonfarm payroll employment was (+225) higher than last year. Leisure and Hospitality (+125), Government (+100), Educational and Health Services (+75), Other Services (+50), and Financial Activities (+50) added jobs. Losses were reported in Professional and Business Services (-175), Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (-75), and Information (-50).